

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Military Information on Rathenow Post and Field Exercises in the area south of the City.

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 5 to 11 October 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 11 November 1952

REFERENCES

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REMARKS

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1. During the night of 10 October 1952, the troops from the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse, Rathenow (N 53/2 15), returned to the post by rail, bringing along with them 10 x 152-mm field howitzers, 5 x 76.2-mm field guns and trucks

loaded with billeting equipment.

On 11 October, there was intensive traffic of trucks with billeting equipment from Nordbahnhof to the Infanterie Kaserne. On 11 October, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse quartered about 300 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia.

2. During the night of 6 October, all rocket launchers and motor vehicles, except for 30 trucks, moved out of Camp Premnitz south of Rathenow and were loaded on a train at the railroad station. The train pulled out toward Brandenburg.

- 3.

4. During the period from 8 to 11 October 1952, practices were held in the area southwest of Rathenow in the course of which a Havel River crossing from east to west was observed in the area of Buetzer.

several sidecar motorcycles, several American model armored personnel carriers,

JS tanks

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After 12:30 p.m. on 11 October, a column with troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets, bridge building equipment, 3 assault boats and trucks [redacted] were loaded at the Hauptbahnhof of Rathenow.

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1. [redacted] Comment. The units that returned to the Pionier Kaserne probably were equipped with 122-mm howitzers. They belong to the 18th How Arty Brig (WS), which is confirmed as being stationed in the Pionier Kaserne until 11 October

[redacted] Records of the Berlin railroad district indicated that the shipment came from Alten rabow and had probably brought back elements of the brigade that did not participate in the fall maneuvers. [redacted]

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2. [redacted] Comment. The loadings were probably made by units of the 25th RL Brig which, according to other records, went to Dessau via Brandenburg to participate in maneuvers of the Eighth Gds Army. [redacted]

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3. [redacted] Comment. The field exercises are believed to have been conducted by elements of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army that had not participated in the field exercise previously conducted in this area from 23 to 26 September 1952. According to another report, the bulk of the units practicing there had come from the Templin troop training grounds. The course of the training appears to have been an attack from east to west following a crossing over the Havel River.

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[redacted] army engineer troops as well as engineer troops of units subordinate to the army participated in the field exercise. The maneuver ended about 10 October when the first units started departing. The four shipments mentioned in the report carried units back to their posts and some to the Templin training grounds. Another report indicated that two trains with units, probably of the 25th Tank Div, returned to Templin on 10 October, presumably coming from the above mentioned exercises.

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